

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled)

10. (New) A stored program control (12, 14), comprising a control unit (20), which, during a period of operating time for the stored program control (12, 14), performs operations involving the transmitting and/or receiving of data from peripheral units (30);

wherein the stored program control (12, 14) is equipped with a module (32) for registering the operating time and/or the operations performed by the stored program control (12, 14);

wherein the module (32) is coupled to an evaluation unit (38), which is located at a central point (18), via a data transmission medium, that the evaluation unit (38) is equipped with a calculation unit, in which the operating times and/or operations are assigned corresponding debit amounts, and that the central point (18) is equipped with a memory unit (39) for an operating credit; and

wherein the operating credit is automatically deducted in correspondence with the amount of operating time and/or the operations performed by the stored program control for calculating a user fee accrued by the user of the stored program control.

11. (New) A stored program control (12, 14) comprising

a control unit (20) that during an operating time of the stored program control (12, 14) performs operations for transmitting and/or receiving data from peripheral units (30);

wherein the stored program control (12, 14) comprises a module (32) for registration of the operating time and/or the operations of the stored program control (12, 14);

wherein the module (32) is coupled to an evaluation unit (46) for calculating a user fee accrued by the user of the stored program control (12, 14), that the evaluation unit (46) along with the module (32) is integrated into a component (34), that the component (34) is equipped with a memory unit (44) for an operating amount and/or a reading unit (40) for a payment card (42), and that the evaluation unit (46) has a calculation unit, in which the operating times and/or operations are assigned corresponding debit amounts; and

wherein the operating credit is automatically deducted in correspondence with the amount of operating time and/or the operations performed by the stored program control (14).

12. (New) A method for operation of a stored program control (12, 14), wherein the operating time and/or the operations of the stored program control (12, 14) are registered, said method comprising

registering and evaluating the operating time and/or the operations of the stored program control (12, 14) for calculating a user fee accrued for the user of the stored program control;

transmitting the registered user data to a central point (18) via a data transmission medium (16), or evaluating the registered user data on site in the stored program control

(12, 14), whereby in an evaluation unit (38) the operating time and/or the operations are used for calculating user fees; and

wherein a predetermined amount of credit, stored in the stored program control (12, 14) or in the central point (18), or loaded using a payment card (42), is debited in keeping with the using time and/or operation performed by the stored program control (12, 14).